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LETTER DATED 15 APRIL 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of fresh violations by the Iranian side of the cease-fire provisions and the terms governing the area of separation between the two sides during the period from 25 March to 9 April 1993.

1. On 25 March 1993, a fishing launch belonging to the Nasr Fishing Association in Faw went out to fish south-east of Mina' al-Amiq, with the following fishermen on board:

(a) Talabah Husayn Haydar;

(b) Abbas Talabah Husayn;

(c) Faraj Qasim Zahir;

(d) Adil Abbud Nasih.

The above-mentioned launch was attacked by an Iranian twin-engine vessel carrying four armed men in civilian clothing. After tying up their hands, blindfolding them and forcing them to board the Iranian vessel, the Iranians took the Iraqi fishermen, with their fishing launch in tow, to Mina' Mahjur. The Iraqi fishermen were then put in jail and interrogated by an Arabic-speaking interpreter. On 8 April 1993, the fishermen were released at the same spot where they were abducted.

2. At 0800 hours on 30 March 1993, a group of men from the Iranian side, estimated to number 15, were seen digging and then roofing three firing posts in front of the Saddam guard post at geographical coordinates 420560. At 1000 hours on the same day, the work was completed and the Iranian group withdrew to the Iranian rear. The positions dug are only 100 metres distant from the international boundary line inside the area of separation.

3. At 0800 hours on 31 March 1993, a group of soldiers from the Iranian side, estimated to number 15, were seen erecting barbed wire near the firing positions dug in the Iranian area, as reported in paragraph 2 above, opposite the Iraqi units and in front of the Saddam guard post at geographical coordinates 420560.

At 1050 hours on the same day, the group completed its operations in the area of separation.

4. At 0820 hours on 1 April 1993, a group of men from the Iranian side, estimated to number nine, were seen digging a position and positioning sacks of earth in front of the Fakkah post at geographical coordinates 533503. The position dug is 500 metres distant from the international boundary line inside the area of separation.

5. At 1015 hours on 2 April 1993, 15 Iranian soldiers were seen strengthening communications trenches at the Iranian post in front of the Saddam guard post at geographical coordinates 4256. The communication trenches are 800 metres from the international boundary line inside the area of separation.

6. At 1700 hours on 3 April 1993, a group of Iranians, estimated to number seven, were observed strengthening positions in front of the Fakkah guard post at geographical coordinates 514501.

7. At 1400 hours on 4 April 1993, seven Iranian soldiers were seen strengthening a communications line at geographical coordinates 4457 inside the area of separation.

8. At 1700 hours on 6 April 1993, an Iranian Mercedes truck was seen carrying an estimated total of 41 large wooden crates. They unloaded them in front of the Fakkah guard post at geographical coordinates 514505 inside the area of separation.

9. At 0930 hours on 9 April 1993, an aircraft was seen flying over the Iranian units in front of the Fakkah guard post at geographical coordinates 518529. The said aircraft's flight was only 1,500 metres distant from the international boundary line.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative